Problem of Malnutrition among children

1545.SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the problems of malnutrition among children;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to cope up with the problems;

(c) whether Government has introduced many schemes and programmes for the development of nutritional status among children, which have not proved effective; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to monitor those schemes and programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The Government is committed to reduce the level of malnutrition among children and is implementing a number of schemes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of children. Some of these are as under:-

(i) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme (Ministry of Women & Child Development) having a component of Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) Component and lactating mothers;

(ii) National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) [Department of School Education & Literacy];

(iii) Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(iv) Nutrition Education and Training Programmes of Food and Nutrition Board (Ministry of Women & Child Development);

(v) Reproductive and Child Health (RCH-II) Programme under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Doesn't arise.

Anaemia due to malnutrition

1546.SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of children suffering from anaemia in the country due to lack of nutritious food;

(b) the details of last survey conducted by Government in this regard, indicating the statistics, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent anaemic diseases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS) III, undertaken by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in 2005-06, 69.5% children in the age group of 6 months to 59 months were suffering from anemia in the country.

(b) State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Community Food and Nutrition Extension Units (CFNEUs) of the Food and Nutrition Board (FNB) in the Ministry of Women and Child Development are engaged in Nutrition awareness programmes and organizing training courses for improving the dietary food habits of the population.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare which is the nodal Ministry for providing health services in the country, have issued detailed policy guidelines on Iron Folic Acid supplementation for children below 5 years which covers infants between 6 months to 12 months also.

Statement

State-wise prevalence of anaemia in children (6-59 months)

India 69.5%

Sl.No.	Region	Percentage
1	2	3
	North	
1	Delhi	57.0
2	Haryana	72.3
3	Himachal Pradesh	54.7
4	Jammu & Kashmir	58.6
5	Punjab	66.4
6	Rajasthan	69.7
7	Uttaranchal	61.4
	Central	
8	Chhattisgarh	71.2
9	Madhya Pradesh	74.1
10	Uttar Pradesh	73.9
	East	
11	Bihar	78.0
12	Jharkhand	70.3
13	Orissa	65.0
14	West Bengal	61.0
	North-East	
15	Arunachal Pradesh	56.9
16	Assam	69.6
17	Manipur	41.1
18	Meghalaya	64.4
19	Mizoram	44.2
20	Sikkim	59.2
21	Tripura	62.9

1	2	3
	West	
22	Goa	38.2
23	Gujarat	69.7
24	Maharashtra	63.4
	South	
25	Andhra Pradesh	70.8
26	Karnataka	70.4
27	Kerala	44.5
28	Tamil Nadu	64.2

Dowry related and women harassment cases

†1547. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the initiative of honourable Supreme Court, a proposal regarding review of law on women harassment and dowry laws is under consideration of Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been an increase in the number of such incidents in past few days;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government is contemplating any plan for early disposal of such cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) In the light, of Judgment dated 13.8.1997 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Criminal) Nos. 666-70 of 1992 (Vishaka & Ors. *Vs.* State of Rajasthan & Ors.), the Protection of Women Against Sexual Harassment at Work Place Bill is under finalization by the Government.

In view of Judgment dated 5.1.2007 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Criminal Appeal No. 1613 of 2005 in the matter of Appasaheb and anr. *Vs.* State of Maharashtra, the National Commission for Women has proposed amendments to Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 which are under consideration.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir, the details are given in Statement-I, II and III (*See* below).

(d) and (e) All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and State Governments & UT Administrations were advised to strictly follow the guidelines contained in the judgment dated 13.8.1997 of the Supreme Court in Vishaka & Ors. *Vs.* State of Rajasthan & Ors, concerning Prevention of sexual harassment of women employees at work place.

The onus for implementation of Dowry Prohibition Act 1961 rests with the State Governments. The Central Government advised all State Governments to appoint Dowry Prohibition Officers with independent charge and to notify rules under the Act.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.